IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Richmond Division

APEX SYSTEMS, INC.,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Case No. 3:11CV588
CC INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS, INC.,)
Defendant.)

DEFENDANT'S MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Defendant, CC Intelligent Solutions, Inc. ("Defendant"), by counsel, for its memorandum in opposition to the motion for summary judgment filed by plaintiff, Apex Systems, Inc. ("Plaintiff"), states as follows:

Disputed Material Facts

Pursuant to Local Rule 56(B), Defendant contends that the following facts asserted by Plaintiff are disputed.

1. Defendant disputes that it owes \$9,583.00 in attorney's fees pursuant to the Technical Staffing Master Services Agreement (the "Contract"). A copy of the contract was attached to Plaintiff's Memorandum as Exhibit 2. The Contract provides for "reasonable attorneys' fees" should any matter of default be referred to an attorney for collection. Contract at ¶ 7. For a "straightfoward case of breach of a commercial services contract"—as characterized by Plaintiff in its Memorandum—this amount is not reasonable and is unsupported.

ARGUMENT

I. LEGAL STANDARD FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Summary judgment is not to be "lightly granted." <u>Southern Federal Savings & Loan v.</u> <u>Fellows</u>, 22 B.R. 40, 41 (E.D. Va. Bankr. 1982). Summary judgment should be granted only if "there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c).

The burden on the nonmoving party is light. See Southern Federal, 22 B.R. at 41 (the nonmoving party "need only respond with sufficient evidence supporting the claimed factual dispute . . . to require a jury or judge to resolve the parties' differing versions . . . at trial."). In considering a motion for summary judgment, "the court is required to view the facts and draw reasonable inferences in a light most favorable to the nonmoving party. The [nonmoving party] is entitled to have the credibility of all of his evidence presumed." Shaw v. Stroud, 13 F.3d 791, 798 (4th Cir. 1994) (citations omitted). The nonmoving party is entitled to have its "version of all that is in dispute accepted, all internal conflicts in it resolved favorably to [it], the most favorable of possible alternative inferences from it drawn in [its] behalf; and finally, to be given the benefit of all favorable legal theories invoked by the evidence so considered." M&M Medical Supp. and Svc. v. Pleasant Valley Hosp., Inc., 981 F.2d 160, 163 (4th Cir. 1993) (citations omitted).

II. THE AMOUNT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES SOUGHT BY PLAINTIFF IS NOT REASONABLE

As Plaintiff stated, this is "a straightforward case of breach of a commercial services contract." Plaintiff's Memo at p. 3. Plaintiff issued fifteen invoices for services it provided to Defendant. Defendant was (and is) unable to pay the invoices. The case is simple. Yet, Plaintiff claims that it expended \$9,583 in attorney's fees.

To determine whether a requested fee is reasonable, the Court must use the lodestar

formula which consists of "the number of hours reasonably expended on the litigation multiplied

by a reasonable hourly rate." Travis v. Prime Lending, 2008 WL 2397330 at *4 (W.D. Va. June

12, 2008). Therefore, Plaintiff must show that the hourly rate is reasonable and "that the number

hours for which he seeks reimbursement is reasonable and does not include hours that are

excessive, redundant, or otherwise unnecessary." Id. Plaintiff's affidavit concerning its

attorney's fees does not set forth the hourly rate that applied nor did it set forth the hours

expended on this matter. See Plaintiff's Exhibit 4. Defendant has not admitted that the amount

of fees claimed is due to Plaintiff. To the contrary, this amount is disputed based on lack of facts

to support Plaintiff's claim.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Defendant respectfully requests that the Court deny Plaintiff's

Motion for Summary Judgment.

CC INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS, INC.

By: /s/ Franklin R. Cragle, III

Counsel

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 14th day of February, 2012, a true copy of the foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid, to:

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